



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005

VOL. 52 NO. 22

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices ended the week unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Retail demand was moderate to very good. Supplies ranged in close balance to available, but were mostly sufficient for current requirements. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to ample for the quiet to moderate demand. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for a fair to usually moderate demand. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal.

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, White eggs in cartons, cents per dozen.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Cartoned egg demand moderate to very good, best where features are in progress or planned. Food service movement was light to moderate. Supplies were in close balance to readily available. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades 1 cent lower. Offerings were ample for the non-existent demand. Floor stocks adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely to mostly weak.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	45-55	46-52
LARGE	44-54	45-48
MEDIUM	31-41	33-36

Prices delivered to store door:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	52-61	54-58
LARGE	51-60	52-54
MEDIUM	38-47	41-43

Midwest Area: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY & Western PA.

Prices paid to producers.

IA-MN-WI -	RANGE	MOSTLY
LARGE	27-36	31
MEDIUM	14-20	18
SMALL	8-12	

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment was steady entering the weekend. Demand into all channels was moderate to at times good, best where features were planned or in progress. Large eggs were advertised at 79 cents a dozen. Supplies were adequate. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light to moderate demand. Schedules were mostly normal to reduced. Spent hens were fully adequate for the fair to mostly moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were noted as normal to instances less than normal for the upcoming week.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	55-70	56-59
LARGE	49-63	54-58
MEDIUM	35-48	40-42

Northeast Area: CT, DC, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, & VT.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Retail demand moderate to very good. Distributive movement moderate. Supplies were adequate to available. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged, checks and undergrades 1 cent lower. Offerings were ample for the nonexistent demand. Breakers watching for further market developments before purchasing additional breaking stock. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment generally weak.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	58.5-67	60-63
LARGE	56.5-65	58-61
MEDIUM	40.5-49	42-45

South Central Area: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, MN, OK & TX.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Retail demand ranged moderate to good. Supplies were sufficient for immediate trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type hens were fully sufficient for the fair to mostly moderate demand. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	53.5-67	55-58
LARGE	52-65	53-56
MEDIUM	37.5-55	38-42

Southeast Area: AL, FL, GA, MNS, NC, SC, eastern TN & southern VA.

NEW YORK Prices ended the week unchanged on extra large, large and medium. The market tone was steady. Demand ranged moderate to occasionally good entering the weekend. Supplies were sufficient for present trade requirements.

Prices delivered to store door:

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	63-67
LARGE	61-65
MEDIUM	47-51

WESTERN Prices unchanged. The market tone was just steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. Retailer demand moderate to good. Offerings and floor stocks ample.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was just steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes. Retailer demand fairly good. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 53. Ads in Southern California: major- large 18 pack 2 for \$3; smaller outlets- extra large 20 pack 199, 30 pack 269, large dozen 79.

CALIFORNIA: California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	106
EXTRA LARGE	97
LARGE	87
MEDIUM	73

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door, cents per dozen.

	RANGE
JUMBO	78-95
EXTRA LARGE	76-85
LARGE	74-77
MEDIUM	60-63

Prices to consumers major chains, metropolitan area, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen.

	RANGE
JUMBO	249-259
EXTRA LARGE	219-289
LARGE	199-219
MEDIUM	189-205

CENTRAL REGION BREAKING STOCK Breaking stock prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades 1 cent lower. Offerings were ample for the light to non-existent demand. Most breakers were waiting for further market developments before purchasing additional breaking stock. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to mostly weak.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	25-28	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	13-17	14-16
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices were lower when compared to early week trading. Trade sentiment was steady to weak. Offerings were sufficient for the light to moderate demand. Supplies were adequate for mostly normal, but some reduced processing schedules. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 12-Mar-2005 were 8% more than the previous week, and 6% more than a year earlier.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	24-29	25-27
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	13-20	14-18
EASTERN REGION AREA: AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 12-MAR-05 (LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,274,049	31,496	11,715	6,643	2,473	4,543
PW	1,263,843	30,745	11,823	6,114	2,259	4,452
LY	1,167,965	28,880	10,633	5,989	2,371	4,140
% CHG PW	1	2	-1	9	9	2
% CHG LY	9	9	10	11	4	10
2005	12,388,368	297,618	119,971	63,974	28,114	43,662
2004	11,596,688	273,852	111,946	62,735	26,657	40,885
% CHG YTD	7	9	7	2	5	7

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.70	42.04	42.50
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	39.13	38.52	38.96

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 39.5 to 42 cents fob with pasteurized whites too few to report. Trade sentiment was weak for whole egg and whites and mostly steady for yolk. Offerings were ample for whole egg and whites and adequate for yolk. Demand was fair to fairly good as markets adjusted to lower levels and many buyers locked in prices for future needs. Breaking stock prices were lower when compared to last week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	34	21-24	21.81	-3.86
WHITES	14	20-25	21.89	-1.89
YOLKS	9	41-45	43.50	.44

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg prices ranged 1 cent lower while whites were unchanged. Sugared and salted yolk ranged irregular. Trade sentiment was barely steady for whole egg and whites and about steady for sugared and salted yolk. Offerings were balanced to adequate with demand light, although demand was reported as slightly improving for sugared yolk. Most breakers were sitting on minimal inventories of frozen product. Central States breaking stock prices were lower when compared to last week's reported prices.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

TRUCKLOTS	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	37-41	39
WHITES	39-41	39
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	53.5-58	54-56
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	51-55	51-52

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were unchanged on sugar yolks, but lower on whites, and unchanged to lower on whole when compared to the previous week's trading. Buyers were limiting purchases and watching further market developments. Supplies and offerings were balanced to available. Demand was seasonal and reported as light. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 12-MAR-2005 were 7% more than the previous week, and 6% more than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	33-43	38-40	45-49
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		59-75
WHITES	36-42	36-38	43-48
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	52-58	53-56	60-66
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	50-55	51-53	57-62
(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.			

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 3 cents lower on whole, 1 cent lower on whites, and unchanged on yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 3/12 was 14% less than the previous week. Frozen demand fair with freezer stocks ample.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	43-46
WHITES	43-46
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	60-63
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	58-61

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Mostly prices were unchanged on yolk and albumen, but lower on whole and blends when compared to a week earlier. Demand and trading was mostly light. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. The undertone was steady on yolks, soft on balance of items. However, most traders were talking in terms that markets were sideways. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 12-Mar-2005 were 9% more than the previous week and 4% more than last year. The total year to date dried eggs produced were 5% higher than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, Trucklot and less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	1.29-1.60	MOSTLY 1.30-1.42
YOLKS	1.32-1.45	MOSTLY 1.35-1.40
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.20-2.55	MOSTLY 2.35-2.45
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.30-1.70	MOSTLY 1.30-1.40

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES* WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MARCH 11, 2005-MARCH 17, 2005

CURRENT LOADS 47.00								FUTURE LOADS 52.50				TOTAL LOADS 99.50			
SE			NE		MW			SC				NW		SW	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W XL	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.00	GNR W 1	--	39.00	--	--	--	--	1.00
GNR W 1	32.67	35.44	34.00	35.83	--	34.33	22.00	GL W J	--	--	--	--	--	49.00	1.00
GNR W 2	--	--	--	34.00	--	--	5.00	GL W XL	--	44.00	--	--	--	45.00	1.25
GNR W 3	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.00	GL W LG	--	42.00	--	--	--	--	1.75
GL W J	--	--	55.00	56.00	36.50	--	2.00	GL W MD	20.75	31.00	--	--	--	30.29	6.00
GL W XL	--	48.00	45.59	47.66	34.00	--	30.25	GL W SM	17.38	--	--	--	--	23.13	2.00
GL W LG	--	47.00	41.40	43.33	--	--	13.25								
GL W MD	--	27.00	--	27.75	21.12	27.29	14.00								
GL W SM	24.50	28.00	25.00	27.00	--	--	4.00								
NRBS - 48	24.00	26.20	--	--	24.50	27.24	23.00								
NRBS - 45	--	--	--	--	--	26.00	3.00								

*Weighted average prices are listed for various classed priced by origin and/or destination for 6 regions. The loads column reflects total loads reported and includes loads with prices to be determined later. NRBS categories represent net weight-material may or may not be included. Load movement represents total movement within 6 regions.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL

WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HENS Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand was fair to mostly moderate with offerings of spent hens fully adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-13	8-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Costs required for disposal TFEWR. Demand was light for adequate offerings from production areas. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were mostly ample as additional spent hens move into processing channels. Demand was reported as fair. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	3.5-8.5

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant schedules heavy. Offerings ample.

COMBINED REGIONAL SHELL EGGS

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	57.50	56.00	41.00
SOUTHEAST	56.50	54.50	40.00
MIDWEST	49.00	46.50	34.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	61.50	59.50	43.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	56.37	54.36	39.91
COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY REGIONAL AREA POPULATIONS			

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; slightly lower on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair for light canners; heavy canners were fair to moderate with most available supplies of the heavy canners being used internally. Offerings were generally adequate to at least adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
28-33 MAJORITY 28-30	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
30-35 MAJORITY 30-32	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection

W/E Mar 12, 2005 (PRELIMINARY)

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	1,720	1,317	3,037
Last Week	1,547	1,451	2,998
Same week yr ago	1,344	1,165	2,509
To-date/2005	14,535	12,919	27,454
To-date/2004	12,737	12,646	25,383

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	261	7	268
Last Week	324	0	324
Same week yr ago	377	0	377
To-date/2005	3,132	11	3,143
To-date/2004	2,370	28	2,398

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Total U.S. Fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	1,981	1,324	3,305
Last Week	1,871	1,451	3,322
Same week yr ago	1,721	1,165	2,886
To-date/2005	17,667	12,930	30,597
To-date/2004	15,107	12,674	27,781

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending March 05, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	304	239	1,863	1,257
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	0	61	89
Total	304	239	1,924	1,346

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending March 05, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	122	133	1,636	996
Frozen	8	42	211	332
Dried	0	0	300	551
Total	130	175	2,147	1,879

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending March 05, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Jumbo	0	0	0	50
Extra Large	100	1,200	950	2,910
Large	1,940	1,500	6,070	9,093
Medium	870	750	7,935	6,030
Ungraded	780	2,198	1,502	13,478
Misc	780	0	2,263	0
Total	4,470	5,648	18,720	31,561

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section
Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.**COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - Selected Centers
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)**

		Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM	03/14/05	3,347	97,151	44,731
AM	03/01/05	3,601	88,108	41,709
CHG		-254	9043	3022
PCT CHG		-7%	10%	7%

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT

(Receipts From Producers)

W/E 12-Mar-2005	CASES	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
REGIONS	(IN THOUS)	PW	LY
North Atlantic	247.4	1	0
East North Central	633.2	1	6
West North Central	298.2	4	5
South Atlantic	220.0	-2	-1
South Central	70.1	12	0
West	221.3	2	19
Total	1690.2	2	5

Matched Plants reporting Previous week 86
Last year 85Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)
East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)
South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)
West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)**MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS**

W/E 12-Mar-2005

Selected Consuming Centers	CW	LW	PERCENT CHANGE	
	(Thousands)		LW	LY
Atlanta	27.7	26.8	3	-3
Boston	4.3	3.3	30	30
Chicago	76.3	72.4	5	25
Detroit	33.4	23.5	42	48
Kansas City	4.3	3.2	34	-65
Los Angeles	110.6	110.4	0	23
New Orleans	6.5	7.0	-7	-13
New York	32.6	32.1	2	11
St. Louis	16.2	17.3	-6	-1
San Francisco	19.6	20.5	-4	-4
Total	331.5	316.5	5	14
4 Week Moving Avg.	318.2			

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Mar 15, 2005

Prices paid per dozen Grade A Brown eggs in cartons delivered store door.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	95	92	69	47
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	89-93	86-90	62-66	40-44
MOSTLY	91-92	88-89	64-65	42-43
RHODE ISLAND	94-98	91-95	68-72	46-50
MOSTLY	94	91	68	46
VERMONT	97-100	94-95	69-75	-
MOSTLY	97	94	69	-

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats,	Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins,
	Fax	(202)720-2403	Chief		Fax	(515)284-4468	Officer-In-Charge
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman,		Recorded	(515)284-4545	
	Fax	(404)562-5875	Officer-in-Charge	Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby,
	Recorded	(404)562-5856			Fax	(213)534-1333	Officer-in-Charge
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown,		Recorded	(213)534-1335	
	Fax	(601)965-4661	Southern States Area Supervisor				